AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): An electrical connector comprising:

a first female connector housing and a second male connector housing mating with the first female connector housing,

the first female connector housing having a male connector housing mating space with a first peripheral wall, and a tapered surface formed on an inner surface of the first peripheral wall,

the second male connector housing having an inner housing with a second peripheral wall, and a tapered surface projecting from an outer surface and positioned at a forward end of the second peripheral wall,

wherein [[a]] each tapered surface is integrally formed on ~~each of~~ the first and second connector housings, the tapered surfaces inclined in the mating direction of the first and second connector housings, the tapered surfaces engaging with each other on complete mating of the first and second connector housings.

Claim 2 (Previously Presented): The electrical connector according to Claim 1 characterized in that each tapered surface is unitarily formed with each of the connector housings.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): An electrical connector comprising:

a first female connector housing, and

a second male connector housing mating with the first female connector housing,

the first female connector housing having a male connector housing space with a first peripheral wall,

the second male connector housing having an inner housing with a second peripheral wall,

wherein a tapered surface is integrally formed on one of [[the]] an inner surface of the first peripheral wall of the first female connector housing and ~~second connector housings~~, a projection from an outer surface, positioned at a forward end of the second peripheral wall, of the second male connector housing, the tapered surface inclined in the mating direction of the first female and second male connector housings, the tapered surface engaged with a surface of the other connector housing on mating of the first female and second male connector housings.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented): The electrical connector according to Claim 3 characterized in that the tapered surface is unitarily formed with the one of connector housings.

Claim 5 (Cancel)

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): The electrical connector according to Claim 3 characterized in that the ~~other~~ second male connector housing has [[an]] the inner housing formed with a looseness

prohibiting protrusion, wherein the tapered surface of the [[one]] first female connector housing abuts against the looseness prohibiting protrusion on mating the first female and second male connector housings.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): The electrical connector according to Claim 6 characterized in that the looseness prohibiting protrusion has a tapered surface engaged with the tapered surface of the [[one]] first female connector housing to define a surface-contact state.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The electrical connector according to Claim [[5]] 3 characterized in that the inner housing is movable in the connector mating direction and is urged toward the [[one]] first female connector housing by a resilient member.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): The electrical connector according to Claim 8 characterized in that the resilient member is a waterproof packing attached in the ~~other~~ second male connector housing, the waterproof packing closely sandwiched between an outer surface of [[a]] the peripheral wall of the inner housing and an inner surface of a peripheral wall of the [[one]] first female connector housing on complete engagement of the first female and second male connector housings.